

Submitter: Helena Birecki  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB238  
Chair Bowman and Members of the Committee,

Please vote NO on HB238A.

HB238A would REPEAL the exact authority law enforcement has testified it needs to protect public safety:

- \* ORS 837.335 which explicitly allows drone use for Search and rescue and

- \* ORS 837.340 which explicitly allows drone use for Investigations of crimes and accidents

and replace that reasonable authority with sweeping law enforcement rights that make a mockery of residents' rights to privacy, and also put a chill over our first amendment right to free speech.

HB238A would allow for law enforcement to deploy drones in "response to any call for law enforcement services" or in "circumstances that make it unreasonable for law enforcement agencies to obtain a warrant." It then goes on to list ways that drones cannot be used but these are pretty much null and void because each prohibition is countered by "except as otherwise authorized by this section."

Prozanski's amendment SB 238-A11 is an improvement because it 1) explicitly prevents drones from being used to surveil lawful assemblies, and 2) requires that the data collected is "not used for general surveillance or retained for more than 30 days after the date of the incident unless directly relevant to an ongoing criminal investigation."

Still, if I were being attacked or robbed, or called 9-1-1 because I saw someone else being harmed and couldn't help them myself, I have no earthly idea how a drone is going to stop that crime or help that person.

Drones to stop a crime? Dubious.

Drones for search and rescue Yes. But that authority already exists. Don't repeal it to replace it with something worse.

I strongly urge you to vote NO on SB238A.

